



"TO CARE FOR HIM WHO HAS BORNE THE BATTLE, AND FOR HIS WIDOW AND ORPHANS."

ESTABLISHED 1877.

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A VENERABLE RELIC.

FLAG OF THE BON HOMME RICHARD.

Interesting Facts Concerning its History—Description of the Old Ensign—What Sir Stafford Northcote Says About It—Its Present Owner.

Mr. Samuel Bayard Stafford, who lives in Prince George's County, Maryland, a few miles from Washington, has returned to his home from Yorktown, where he went to participate in the centennial ceremonies. This old gentleman, who is over seventy years of age, and remarkably well preserved, is the youngest son and only surviving child of James Bayard Stafford, of New Jersey, who was a midshipman in the navy sloop-of-war Alliance, during the Revolution, and was on duty on the Bon Homme Richard at the time the gallant John Paul Jones fought and defeated the British frigate Serapis off the English coast. Midshipman Stafford distinguished himself during the famous sea-fight, and after the war, December 9, 1784,

THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

at Philadelphia adopted a resolution to bestow upon him, "for your meritorious service through the late war, Paul Jones' starry flag of the Bon Homme Richard, which was transferred to the Alliance, a boarding sword of such ship, and a musket captured from the Serapis." The family of Midshipman Stafford have religiously preserved these historical relics of the Revolution since his death in 1838, at Trenton, at the age of ninety-eight, and at the Yorktown ceremonies the surviving son displayed these relics. On showing them to the French guests of the Nation they evinced very great interest, and several of them reverently kissed the old flag. Congress designated this flag as "the starry" flag of Paul Jones, to distinguish it from the famous "rattlesnake" flag, which bore the legend "Don't tread on me." Midshipman Stafford was married after the Revolution to Abigail Smith, of Natick, Mass., who was the daughter and granddaughter of revolutionary soldiers, her father dying from wounds received at the battle of White Plains.

HIS GRANDFATHER WAS ENGAGED

at the battle of Lexington and was a lieutenant at the battle of Bunker Hill. Mrs. Abigail Stafford died at Trenton in 1861, at the advanced age of ninety-five. At her death the flag, sword, and gun were willed to her unmarried daughter, Sarah Smith Stafford, who, dying still unmarried, in January, 1880, bequeathed these precious relics to her aged brother. Mr. Stafford states that he has many times during his youth and early manhood heard his hero father fight over again his battles on the sea, and tell of the wonderful deeds of daring performed by his great commander in the battle with the Serapis, and that he always declared that the sword which was selected from the marine stores at Philadelphia and given him in accordance with the resolution of the Continental Congress, was the very one that Jones carried and

FOUGHT WITH ON THE DECK

of the Bon Homme Richard and wore at his belt when he was forced to abandon his sinking ship and transfer to his consort, the Alliance. This flag is said by some writers to have been the first one made after the present style of the American flag was adopted by Congress, and is certainly known to have been the first one ever hoisted officially. It is six feet wide and was originally about fifteen feet long, but has been so long at the mercy of patriotic relic hunters that it has lost two yards of its length. The blue field, which is about three feet six inches square, bears twelve stars, representing the colonies which had formally entered into the confederation, the admission of Georgia being ratified a few months later than the time the flag was made.

NOT THE LEAST INTERESTING FACT

in connection with the flag is the part it performed at the closing exercises of the Centennial at Philadelphia. It was the intention of the committee on that occasion to have had the flag unfurled from the mast over the main exhibition hall, but the rain changed the programme, and the display was made by unfurling it in the hall, where the exercises were held, from a window directly over President Grant, and while Thomas' orchestra was playing "America." Of this event the late Bayard Taylor said it was the most thrilling he had ever witnessed in all his travels. Sir Stafford Northcote recently wrote the London Daily Telegraph the following letter:

SIR: Having read your article to-day on the flag which once belonged to Paul Jones I venture to ask your permission to tell my story at rather greater length than I have hitherto done. I should begin by saying that my information is derived from Mr. Samuel Bayard Stafford, the present owner of the flag in question, and from some extracts from American newspapers. The facts are as follows: When the War of Independence broke out, Mr. Samuel Stafford's father, at the time engaged in business at New York, joined a small cruiser that was fitted out by Captain Phillip Stafford. This cruiser, after inflicting some damage on the British Indian trade, was captured by an English vessel and the crew put in irons. They were, however, set free and their ship retaken by Paul Jones about ten days before his action with the Serapis. In gratitude for their deliverance the crew volunteered, and served under him in the engagement between the Serapis

and the Bon Homme Richard, in the course of which the flag was shot away from the masthead of the latter vessel. Mr. Stafford leaped into the sea after it, recovered it, and replaced it, being severely wounded while performing this action. The flag which he had thus saved was afterward presented to him by the committee of Congress, and remained in his possession till his death, in 1838. It now belongs to his son. This account will show that while you are correct in saying the Bon Homme Richard was never boarded, and that Mr. Stafford was not one of the crew of that ship, it is nevertheless the fact that as a volunteer that gentleman did save the flag in question, which I maintain to be a genuine relic of historical interest. I remain, sir, your obedient servant.

WALTER STAFFORD NORTHCOTE,
Board of Inland Revenue, Somerset House.
—New York Herald.

ANOTHER CRANK.

A well-dressed and powerfully-built man appeared at the White House October 31st and demanded to see the "accounts of the President." Mr. Dinsmore, the doorkeeper on duty, at once recognized the visitor as a "crank" who had called there in May last and was sent home to his friends in Pennsylvania, and with a view to delivering him in to the custody of the police, suggested that the "accounts" could be seen down the street, and that he would accompany him. The man, who gave the name of John Waling, of Pennsylvania, then presented a letter, which he insisted gave him the right to enter the mansion, and endeavored to force his way in. Mr. Dinsmore seized him, and a desperate struggle ensued. Waling attempted to draw a revolver, but Dinsmore, who had grasped him by the throat, choked so vigorously that he was unable to use it. Steward Crump and another employee of the House hurried to Dinsmore's assistance, and the lunatic was, with some difficulty, overpowered and his revolver taken from him. It was a large-sized seven-shooter, with every barrel loaded. The police were notified and Waling, or Doctor Noetling, was taken to the station and locked up. The letter which he presented read as follows:

"JOHN WALING: You are hereby informed that Doctor John Noetling is lawfully elected President of the United States and occupies the White House every day.

"ALMIGHTY GOD.
"Communicated by the Holy Spirit."
Waling has been sent to the insane asylum.

MAJOR JOHN MIX.

Major John Mix, Ninth United States Cavalry, a veteran and gallant officer, died Wednesday, October 26, 1881, at Kansas City, while en route from Fort Cummings, New Mexico, coming east on sick leave, with Dr. St. Clair Street as his medical attendant. Major Mix entered the old Second Dragoons as a private, April 11, 1852, and served therein until 1861, in the various grades of private, corporal, sergeant and first sergeant. On the 14th of August, 1861, he was appointed a Second Lieutenant of the Second United States Cavalry, and soon afterwards was appointed Major of the Third New York Cavalry Volunteers, and promoted Lieutenant-Colonel of that organization April 26, 1862. He resigned from the volunteers in December, 1862, having in the meantime, on the 17th of July 1862, been promoted First Lieutenant, Second Cavalry. He was promoted Captain October 10, 1865, and Major of the Ninth Cavalry January 25, 1881. After his resignation from the volunteers he remained with the Second Cavalry through the war, following its fortunes in various arduous campaigns in the States and Territories of Nebraska, Kansas, Montana, Wyoming, and Dakota, until his promotion to a majority in the Ninth Cavalry.

CABLE FLASHES.

Orders have been received at Athens to have a flying column in readiness to proceed immediately to any part of West Meath or Roscommon.

Mr. Sexton has been released from prison on account of ill-health, his physician certifying that further confinement would cause his death. Reports from Paris say the speculators Surcock and Debbas, whose failure, with liabilities of 5,000,000 francs in consequence of speculative operations in Egyptian securities, was reported, have disappeared, leaving no assets. They owe about 625,000 francs in London in addition to their liabilities in Paris.

The firm of Surcock & Debbas has failed at Paris with liabilities of 5,000,000. The failure was caused by speculative operations in Egyptian securities.

The Freeman's Journal of Dublin publishes a letter from Mr. Parnell, dated Kilmahnam jail, deprecating the plan of evading the recent proclamation of the Government by the formation of the Tenants' Defense Associations to replace the Land League organizations. Mr. Parnell says such associations would be tolerated by Mr. Gladstone only so long as they appeared to be disposed to carry out his views, and would be mongrel reactionary associations, such as were formally condemned by Mr. Davitt. Every man in Kilmahnam is willing to remain there any number of months or years as may be necessary.

What has become of Dennis Kearney?

PRISONERS OF WAR.

ANNUAL MEETING AT SPRINGFIELD, ILLS.

Reorganization of the Association—Election of Officers. A Visit to the Lincoln Monument—A Banquet and Spirited Speeches.

The ninth annual meeting of the Union Prisoners of War was held at Springfield, Illinois, October 19, something over two hundred ex-prisoners of war, and many other veteran soldiers being in attendance.

After a parade on the streets, escorted by the Governor's Guards and Battery B of the Illinois National Guard, the prisoners were marched to the capitol, where they were welcomed by Mayor McCreery, of Springfield, and Lieutenant-Governor Hamilton, on behalf of the State.

General A. D. Streight, of Indianapolis, and General Charles W. Pavey, of Mt. Vernon, Ill., spoke in response.

General John M. Palmer was called out, and made a powerful extempore speech. He was followed by General John A. McClernand, and others.

The evening meeting was devoted to short speech-making by the ex-prisoners, and some preliminary work toward a reorganization of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

On the 20th the National Prisoners of War Association met, and effected a reorganization, with a new constitution and by-laws, under the name of the Western Division of Union Prisoners of War Association. Officers were elected as follows: General C. W. Pavey, President; Colonel T. H. Butler, Vice-President; Felix Labau, Secretary; C. C. George, Treasurer. The Presidents of the State Associations shall be Vice-Presidents of this association, and the executive committee consist of the vice-president and president and secretary of each State. The next meeting will be held at Chicago. A resolution was adopted declaring that it was the duty of Congress to provide for such prisoners as lost their health in rebel prisons while serving the Government in the war of the rebellion. A resolution was also adopted urging the Senate to confirm Colonel Dudley as

COMMISSIONER OF PENSION.

In the afternoon visitors made a pilgrimage to the Lincoln monument, where addresses were made by General John M. Palmer, and Paul Vandervoort, of Omaha. The latter addressed a large audience at the State House.

The State Association was reorganized, and the officers elected as follows: President, W. W. Lowdermilk, Springfield; Vice-President, B. B. Longnecker, Olney; Secretary, Ed. H. Miner, Bloomington.

In the evening the visitors were banquetted at the Leland Hotel, by the citizens of Springfield, and were entertained by spirited addresses by Judge J. H. Matheny, of Springfield; General R. Rowett, of Quincy; Hon. Wm. M. Springer, General John M. Palmer, Major James A. Connelly, General A. D. Streight, Indiana; General C. W. Pavey, Mt. Vernon; Attorney-General McCartney, and others.

REDUCTION IN THE PUBLIC DEBT.

The following is a recapitulation of the statement of the public debt of the United States for the month of October, 1881:

| | |
|---|------------------|
| Interest-bearing debt— | |
| Bonds at 6 percent, continued at 3½ per cent..... | \$161,876,060 00 |
| Bonds at 5 percent, continued at 3½ per cent..... | 401,501,900 00 |
| Bonds at 4½ per cent..... | 250,000,000 00 |
| Bonds at 4 per cent..... | 758,712,750 00 |
| Refunding certificates..... | 508,050 00 |
| Navy pension fund..... | 14,000,000 00 |
| Total..... | 1,569,728,750 00 |
| Interest..... | 11,499,372 50 |
| Debt on which interest has ceased since maturity..... | 13,746,385 26 |
| Interest..... | 853,355 35 |
| Debt bearing no interest— | |
| Old demand and legal-tender notes..... | 346,741,056 00 |
| Certificates of deposit..... | 8,310,000 00 |
| Gold and silver certificates..... | 71,335,590 00 |
| Fractional currency..... | 7,093,151 92 |
| Total..... | 433,679,797 92 |
| Unclaimed Pacific Railroad interest..... | 7,256 51 |
| Total debt..... | 2,014,154,833 18 |
| Interest..... | 12,349,584 91 |
| Total debt, principal and interest..... | 2,026,504,418 12 |
| Total cash in the Treasury November 1, 1881..... | 240,960,971 22 |
| Debt, less cash in the Treasury November 1, 1881..... | 1,785,543,446 90 |
| Debt, less cash in the Treasury October 1, 1881..... | 1,798,855,925 77 |
| Decrease of debt during the month..... | 13,312,478 87 |
| Decrease of debt since June 30, 1881..... | 55,064,345 08 |
| Current liabilities— | |
| Interest due and unpaid..... | 2,041,671 15 |
| Debt on which interest has ceased..... | 13,746,385 26 |
| Interest thereon..... | 853,355 35 |
| Gold and silver certificates..... | 71,335,590 00 |
| United States notes held for redemption of certificates of deposit..... | 8,310,000 00 |
| Cash balance available November 1, 1881..... | 144,493,448 88 |
| Total..... | 240,960,971 22 |

OCEAN STEAMERS WRECKED.

The steamship Omba, en route from Batavia to Melbourne, foundered and sank October 29, and all on board were lost.

The steamer Calcutta sank between Melbourne and Sydney, and all on board were lost.

A board has been ordered by the general superintendent of the Life-Saving Service to examine the several stations in the fifth district, which embraces the coast between Cape Henlopen and Cape Hatteras.

THE NEW SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

Hon. Charles J. Folger was born in Nantucket, Mass., April 16, 1818. When about twelve years of age his parents removed to Geneva, Ontario county, N. Y., where he has since resided, except at intervals when engaged in the study of law. He graduated from Geneva College in 1836, and immediately entered upon the study of law in the office of Mark H. Sibley and Alvan Worden, in Canandaigua. In 1839 he was admitted to practice at the bar of the supreme court, at Albany, and in the following year entered upon the practice of his profession at Geneva. In 1844 he was appointed, under the old constitution, judge of the Ontario court of common pleas; was also master and examiner in chancery until the chancery court was abolished by the adoption of the constitution of 1846. In 1851 he was elected county judge of Ontario county, and held that office for four years. In 1861 he was elected senator from that district, was re-elected in 1863, in 1865, in 1867, and again in 1869. Mr. Folger was a democrat until 1856, but has acted with the Republican party from the period of its organization. He was elected to the State senate in 1865, and at every subsequent session was chosen speaker pro tem, and presided during the absence of the Lieutenant Governor. As a public speaker there are but few men in the Republican party in the State who can excel him. He is a natural orator, and his powers have been increased by a thorough education and discipline. During the session of 1868 he broke with Governor Fenton, and was instrumental in preventing the confirmation of all the appointments of the Governor that winter, with the exception of auditor of the canal department. Mr. Folger, shortly after his election to the State senate, resigned his place to accept the tender by President Grant of the office of assistant treasurer of the United States in New York city, made vacant by the retirement of Gen. Butterfield, who had been so completely undone by the great "gold conspiracy" of September, 1869. His services on the judiciary committee of the senate and in the constitutional convention of 1867 caused his selection as associate judge of the court of appeals in 1870, and he has ranked as one of the ablest of its members. He was nominated for chief justice by the Republican State committee in August, 1880, no State convention having been called, and was elected on the ticket with Garfield and Arthur by 40,000 majority. He has always been classed as a Stalwart Republican.

A BOSTON DIAMOND ROBBERY.

At the close of business on Wednesday evening in Morse's jewelry store, in Washington street, Boston, the clerk, as usual, "took stock," and missed three sets of diamonds, valued at \$4,700. One of the salesmen recollected a well-dressed man who had desired to purchase some diamonds, and, after inspection, requested a set to be laid aside for him for the following day. An accurate description of the man was sent to police headquarters in New York, which description tallied with that of a well-known thief named Edward McLean, alias Hamilton, whose walk in life was shoplifting in jewelry stores. McLean was traced, and about twelve o'clock on Saturday night Inspector Byrnes captured him near Twenty-seventh street and Broadway. He was locked up and the Boston authorities notified. For fifteen years he has been known to the police, and is now under bail for a theft of diamonds from a store in West Fifteenth street in April last.

FOR SPEAKER OF THE NEXT HOUSE.

The following members of the next House are presented by their respective friends as candidates: Hon. J. C. Burrows, Michigan; Hon. M. H. Dunnell, Minnesota; Hon. D. C. Haskell, Kansas; Hon. Frank Hiseock, New York; Hon. J. A. Hubbell, Michigan; Hon. J. A. Kasson, Iowa; Hon. J. W. Keifer, Ohio; Hon. G. S. Orth, Indiana; Hon. T. B. Reed, Maine; Hon. G. M. Robeson, New Jersey.

A BURGLAR QUICKLY DISPOSED OF.

On the morning of October 27th William Marston was caught in trying to burglarize the rooms of General Boulanger, one of the French guests, at the Continental Hotel, Philadelphia. He was taken before a magistrate and held in \$1,500 bail to answer. The grand jury at once found a true bill against him, and he was tried, convicted, and sentenced to three years' imprisonment, and to give good security to keep the peace and be of good behavior for a year after the expiration of the sentence. All within twenty-four hours.

THE IRISH TROUBLES.

Mr. O'Sullivan, a prominent member of the Cork branch of the Land League, has been arrested, charged with inciting tenants not to pay rent in spite of the government's proclamation declaring the Land League to be an illegal and criminal organization. The Leaguers of Fernagh and Leitrim have issued similar incitements. An armed band has visited houses in the neighborhood of Carrick-ar-Shandon, threatening rent-payers with death.

STRATHAM POSTMASTER AFTER ALL.

The dead-lock in the Senate was caused by the nomination of Clifford Stratham, of Lynchburg, as postmaster. The nomination was withdrawn, and that broke the dead-lock. October 31 the President appointed Stratham, in place of Wilson, suspended.

NEWS FROM ABROAD.

MESSAGES SENT UNDER THE SEA.

More Troops for Ireland—Proceedings under the Land Act—Protecting the Jews—Heavy Snow-Storms. Parnell Sick, &c., &c., &c.

The Greeks have expelled the Turkish post-office employees at Larissa.

The report that Hohart Pacha has lost the Sultan's confidence is denied.

The Sultan has ordered two iron-clads to remain during the winter at Tripoli.

The French column from Tebessa has arrived at Kairouan. Several of the leading inhabitants have been arrested.

Said Pacha, President of the Turkish Council, has promised the Bulgarian representative to inquire into the recent violation of the Bulgarian frontier.

Dispatches from Dublin say: Directly after the publication in the Freeman's Journal of Mr. Parnell's letter deprecating the formation of tenants' defense associations, the governor of Kilmahnam jail was superseded by two new governors. It is probable that Mr. Parnell will be sentenced to fourteen days' privation of visits. The officers of the prison are in a state of apprehension. A sworn inquiry will be held touching the letter.

Heavy snow-storms and gales are reported throughout England. In several parts of the middle counties there are two feet of snow on the ground.

The public prosecutor in Berlin has commenced an action against the editor and publisher of the Reichsherald, the paper conducted by Herr Henrich, the notorious "Jew-hater," on account of a poem in it approving the persecution of the Jews.

A troop-ship has left Portsmouth with 520 men to reinforce various regiments in Ireland.

The Dublin Freeman's Journal says Mr. Parnell was suddenly seized with violent spasms on Sunday and had great suffering for several hours.

It is rumored that Mr. Sexton is dying.

Dispatches from London under date October 31 say: There are already 7,500 cases before the Land Court, of which 3,600 came in on Saturday last. There seems to be a reaction setting in. Although there are 400 Leaguers in prison, occasional events show that the spirit underlying the League movement still survives. Rev. Anthony McHale, Catholic curate at Lahardane, in the diocese of Killala, has been arrested for holding a Land League meeting in his chapel. Miss Parnell denies that the Ladies' Land League have been ordered to quit their rooms in Sackville street.

The Pall Mall (London) Gazette this evening says: There is no truth whatever in the statement that there is a large amount of money in the Bank of England which was deposited to the credit of the confederate government and is available for the payment of confederate bonds. We believe it does not hold a single penny and doubt whether there is any such money in any bank in this country. The whole story is a gross fabrication and the fitting product of a speculation that has no substantial foundation.

Two thousand Irish tenant farmers in the county Limerick have resolved to apply to the land commission to fix judicial rent or set aside unjust leases.

FROM LONDON.—A rumor is current in Dublin that Earl Spencer, Lord President of the Council, will replace Lord Cowper as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and that Lord Derby will replace Earl Spencer in the Cabinet.

A crowd of 700 persons attacked the police while they were serving summons at Bellmuted, county Mayo. The police fired upon the people, several of whom were wounded.

The Standard's Paris correspondent says the negotiations between the Porte and the foreign bond-holders have been successfully concluded.

A telegram from Armagh says cells have been prepared in the jail there for Mr. Parnell and forty others. Among the few arrests to-day is that of an Englishman, Captain Dugmore, late of the Sixty-fourth regiment, a former home-rule candidate for Port Arlington.

A telegram from Tunis says: Ali Ben Amar, chief of the Tunisian insurgents, is dead. The insurgents are much demoralized in consequence.

The police quietly dispersed the Ladies' Land League meeting at Carrick, Tipperary, on Tuesday. The Sligo Harriers hunted yesterday without any opposition being displayed by the farmers.

At last, after a struggle of two years, landlord and tenant came, on Monday, face to face before the judges to decide what was fair rent. The first case examined under the Land act has just been decided here. Its result is a sweeping reduction, amounting altogether to £2 16s. in a yearly rental of £8 16s.

The first tenant who thus comes under the operation of the act is Patrick McAtavey, of Cooltra, county Monaghan, on the estate of Henry Bond, an absentee landlord living in London. The holding is ten acres, rent £8 16s., government valuation £6.

Mr. Parnell has been unanimously elected chairman of the Cork Chamber of Commerce.